

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2493

Introduced by Assembly Member Roger Hernández

February 24, 2012

An act to amend Sections 11435.30 and 11435.35 of the Government Code, relating to workers' compensation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2493, as introduced, Roger Hernández. Workers' compensation: administrative hearings and medical examinations and treatments: interpreters.

Existing law requires certain state agencies, including the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board, to provide language assistance in adjudicative proceedings. Existing law requires the State Personnel Board to establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually for these purposes an updated list of certified administrative hearing interpreters and medical examination interpreters it has determined meet certain minimum standards.

This bill would also authorize the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation or an independent organization designated by the administrative director to establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually an updated list of certified administrative hearing interpreters it has determined meet certain minimum standards, for purposes of administrative hearings and medical examinations conducted in connection with worker's compensation and appeals to the Worker's Compensation Appeals Board.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 11435.30 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11435.30. (a) The State Personnel Board shall establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually an updated list of certified administrative hearing interpreters it has determined meet the minimum standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages designated pursuant to Section 11435.40. Any interpreter ~~so~~ listed may be examined by each employing agency to determine the interpreter's knowledge of the employing agency's technical program terminology and procedures.

(b) Court interpreters certified pursuant to Section 68562, and interpreters listed on the State Personnel Board's recommended lists of court and administrative hearing interpreters prior to July 1, 1993, shall be deemed certified for purposes of this section.

(c) *In addition to the certification procedure provided pursuant to subdivision (a), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation or an independent organization designated by the administrative director may establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually an updated list of certified administrative hearing interpreters it has determined meet the minimum standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages designated pursuant to Section 11435.40, for purposes of administrative hearings conducted pursuant to proceedings of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board.*

SEC. 2. Section 11435.35 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11435.35. (a) The State Personnel Board shall establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually, an updated list of certified medical examination interpreters it has determined meet the minimum standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages designated pursuant to Section 11435.40.

(b) Court interpreters certified pursuant to Section 68562 and administrative hearing interpreters certified pursuant to Section 11435.30 shall be deemed certified for purposes of this section.

(c) *In addition to the certification procedure provided pursuant to subdivision (a), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation or an independent organization designated by the administrative director may establish, maintain, administer,*

1 *and publish annually an updated list of certified medical*
2 *examination interpreters it has determined meet the minimum*
3 *standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages*
4 *designated pursuant to Section 11435.40, for purposes of medical*
5 *examinations conducted pursuant to proceedings of the Workers’*
6 *Compensation Appeals Board, and medical examinations*
7 *conducted pursuant to Division 4 (commencing with Section 3200)*
8 *of the Labor Code.*

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